



HEALTH OFFICER DIRECTIVE FOR “NO MASK, NO SERVICE” AT BUSINESSES

WHEREAS on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee proclaimed a state of emergency within the State of Washington due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a state of pandemic due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS on March 17, 2020, Benton County and on March 16, 2020, Franklin County declared states of emergency due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 outbreak has continued to spread at an alarming pace in Benton and Franklin Counties, additional infection control measures must be implemented by its residents and business owners and operators to avoid the likely outcome of tragic and significant additional loss of life; and

WHEREAS, Washington State Department of Health and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that, in addition to its recommendation to maintain six feet of physical distance from non-household members and frequent hand washing with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer, people wear cloth face coverings when they are in public settings where they cannot reliably maintain six feet of distance from others at all times, given the substantial increase in the numbers of cases of COVID-19 infection, these precautions must be mandatory; and

WHEREAS, workers in essential businesses and other frontline employees must be protected because they face greater exposure and risk of contracting COVID-19 due to their frequent in person contact with members of the public and inability to work from home, and widespread mask use may decrease the risk of spread from someone with unrecognized infection; and

WHEREAS, a Health Officer Directive effective on June 8, 2020, required the use of cloth face coverings by all individuals in indoor and confined public places; and

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WHEREAS, on June 24, 2020, Washington State Secretary of Health John Wiesman signed Order 20-03 mandating the use of face coverings in any indoor or outdoor public setting in the state.

WHEREAS, the Revised Code of Washington, Title 70.05.070(2)-(3), requires and empowers the local health officer to take such action as is necessary to maintain health and to control and prevent the spread of any contagious or infectious diseases within the jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Administrative Code, Title 246-100-036, requires the local health officer, when necessary, to institute disease control measures as he or she deems necessary based on his or her professional judgment, current standards of practice, and the best available medical and scientific information; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Administrative Code, Title 246-101-425 requires members of the general public to cooperate with the implementation of infection control measures.

Based upon the above, as the Local Health Officer, I hereby find that directing businesses to require customers to wear face coverings is reasonable and conducive to maintaining health and to controlling and preventing COVID-19, a contagious and infectious disease, throughout Benton and Franklin Counties.

EFFECTIVE on July 6, 2020, as the Local Health Officer, I hereby **DIRECT** as follows:

NO MASK, NO SERVICE DIRECTIVE

- A. No business may operate, allow a customer to enter a business, or conduct business with a customer inside any building that is open to public or outdoors in a public place unless the customer is wearing a face covering, as described in Order of the Secretary of Health [20-03](#);
- B. No individual may enter a place of business, whether the business is operating indoors or outdoors, without first donning a face covering, unless the individual does so under circumstances expressly exempted from this requirement under Order of the Secretary of Health [20-03](#).



- C. Nothing in this Directive reduces or eliminates the requirements imposed by Directives and Orders from the Local Health Officer, Governor, or other regulatory local, state, or federal agency including employer specific directives from the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.
- D. Face covering use does not replace the need to practice physical distancing (staying away from ill people, staying home, and avoiding all non-essential activities and contact with others), frequent handwashing, and avoiding touching of the face.
- E. Nothing in this Directive supports discrimination or maltreatment of individuals who are not wearing face coverings. All individuals, whether using face coverings or not, deserve to be treated equitably and compassionately.
- F. All members of the public are required by law to comply with this order, and violators may be subject to penalties pursuant to RCW 70.05.120(4) and WAC 246-100-070(3).

ADDITIONALLY, in furtherance of this directive and for general awareness: Order of the Secretary of Health 20-03, issued on June 24, 2020, found [here](#), is incorporated by reference, may be amended as is necessary, and all such amendments are also incorporated by reference.

This Directive shall be in effect until rescinded or superceded by subsequent order of the Local Health Officer.

Signed and directed this 1st day of July 2020, in Kennewick, Washington by



Amy Person, M.D.
Health Officer, Benton-Franklin Health District

